SECTION 3.0 APPROACH

In the Critical Area of Maryland, development and redevelopment activities in IDAs must be designed with appropriate BMPs that must achieve at least a 10% reduction of pre-development pollutant loadings.

This section outlines the six steps to check whether an applicant's development plan has complied with the 10% Rule.

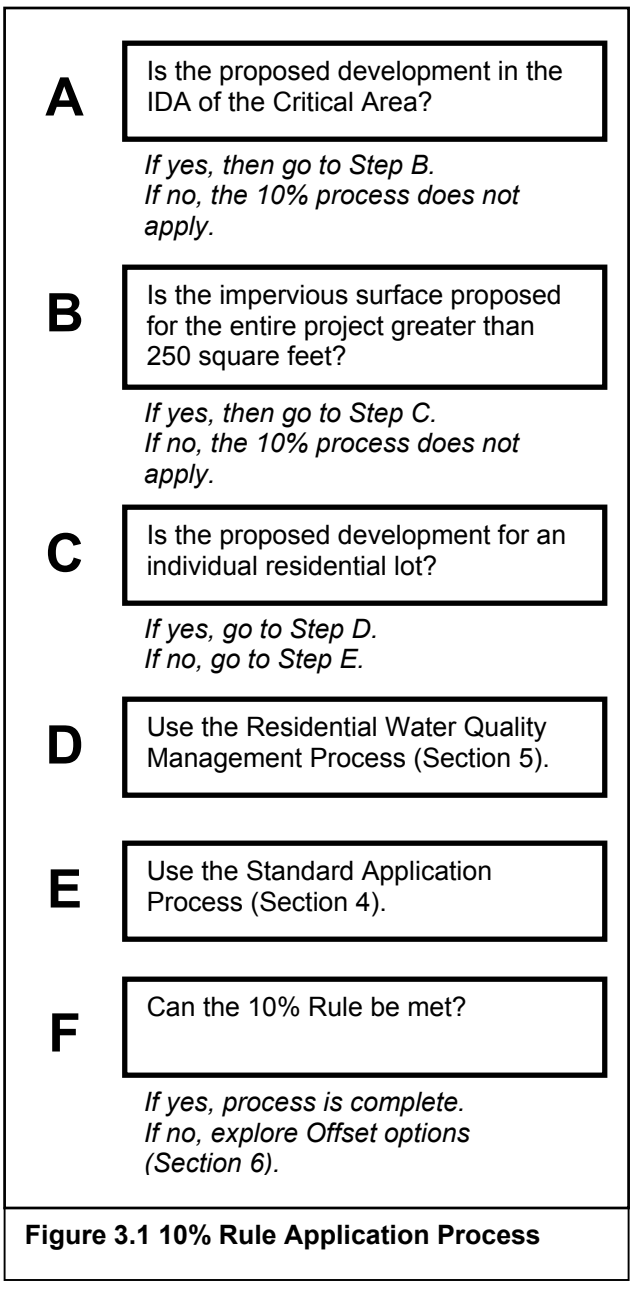

Figure 3.1 10% Rule Application Process

Two application procedures have been developed for 10% Rule compliance based on the type of development that occurs within the Critical Area (Figure 3.1).

- In the Standard Application Process, computations of pre-development and post-development pollutant loadings and pollutant removal efficiencies of BMPs are used to determine compliance with the 10% Rule. Four different pollutant reduction strategies can be used under the Standard Application Process:

    1) Reduce post-development impervious cover to lower levels of pollutants.
    2) Design and install stormwater BMPs to remove pollutants from the Critical Area portion of the site equal to the 10% reduction
    3) Design and install stormwater BMPs to remove pollutants from the Critical Area portion of the site and portions outside of the Critical Area that provide 10% reduction.
    4) Obtain an offset if compliance with the 10% Rule cannot be met with the first three strategies.

- The Residential Water Quality Management Process provides a streamlined process for development on individual residential lots. If the proposed development is eligible, the applicant must submit a Residential Water Quality Management Plan for approval (see Section 5).